

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for monitoring environmental performance information and providing notification when said performance information indicates performance reaching a predetermined level, the method comprising the steps of:

setting performance criteria to capture performance information at specific times by a predetermined schedule in a system, wherein said performance criteria is set at one of a global, a regional, and a site-specific level;

accepting a plurality of forms from a plurality of sites at specific times by said predetermined schedule, each of said forms including instructions, definitions and said performance information according to uniform data definitions;

storing said performance information in a database according to an area of interest of said performance information;

monitoring said performance information for conformance with said performance criteria currently stored;

flagging said performance information that does not conform with said performance criteria and generating a report one of automatically and manually according to at least a portion of said performance information currently stored;

providing notification when said performance information deviates from said performance criteria;

modifying said performance so that said performance conforms with said performance criteria,

wherein said modifying said performance is conducted immediately subsequent to said providing notification when said performance information deviates from said performance criteria so that said modifying of said performance occurs in real time; and automatically creating an audit trail to said forms, wherein said audit trail comprises: a name of an author; a creation date; a name of a modifying user; and, a date of modification.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said monitoring further comprises monitoring said performance information currently stored of a specific set of said plurality of sites for conformance with site-specific performance criteria.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said specific set of sites is a single site and said site-specific performance criteria comprises said performance criteria for said single site.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said specific set of sites comprises multiple sites and said site-specific performance criteria comprises said performance criteria for the multiple sites.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said set of specific sites comprises all said plurality of sites and the site-specific performance criteria comprises said performance criteria for all said plurality of sites.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said providing notification further comprises sending notification via one or more of: e-mail; telephone; facsimile; pager; and, postal mail.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said providing notification further comprises notifying an environmental professional.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising steps of:
modifying performance criteria;
reviewing data in the database for nonconformance with said modified performance criteria; and
providing notification of nonconformance with said modified performance criteria.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said areas of interest include one or more of: air; water; waste; energy; toxic chemical release inventory; containment; regulatory activity; cost and savings; facility general information; database meta information; health and safety information; and, materials use and conservation information.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said database is an Air Programs Database and said performance criteria is a high limit on emissions level.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said database is a Waste Management Database and said performance criteria is a low limit on recycling quantities and low percentage rates of nonhazardous and hazardous waste.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said database is an Energy Database and said performance criteria is a high limit on energy consumption.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said database is a Cost and Savings Database and said performance criteria is a low limit on cost to savings ratio to ensure that economic efficiency does not fall below a predetermined level.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a summary report at a pre-established review period, wherein said report comprises a comparison of said performance information to said performance criteria in the system.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising assigning a specific access level to a user, wherein the access level further comprises: reader; author; and, editor; wherein said reader is limited to viewing documents, author can view said

documents, create said documents, and modify said documents created by said author, and the editor can read, create and modify all said documents.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising creating queries to summarize data and produce useful management information.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said creating step further comprises sorting by a specific chemical compound or composition to analyze activity, distribution, disposition, and decomposition across an operation.

19. (Previously Presented) A system for monitoring environmental performance information comprising:

a processor;

a data storage device operably connected to the processor, said data storage device further comprising a number of individual storage units for storing a predetermined type of data;

a program executable by the processor to:

accept a plurality of forms from a plurality of sites at specific times by said predetermined schedule, each of said forms including instructions, definitions and performance information according to uniform data definitions;

store said performance information in a database according to an area of interest of said performance information; ,

monitor said performance information at said specific times by said predetermined schedule currently stored for conformance against pre-established performance criteria, wherein said performance criteria is set at one of a global, a regional, and a site-specific level; ,

flag said performance information that does not conform with said performance criteria and generate a report one of automatically and manually according to at least a portion of said performance information in currently stored databases; , and

provide notification when said performance information deviates from said performance criteria;

modify said performance so that said performance conforms with said performance criteria,

wherein modifying of said performance is conducted immediately subsequent to providing of said notification when said performance information deviates from said performance criteria so that said modifying of said performance occurs in real time; and

an automatically created audit trail for said forms, said audit trail comprising: a name of an author; a creation date; a name of a modifying user; and, a date of modification.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said program is further executable to monitor said performance information currently stored of a specific set of sites for conformance with site-specific performance criteria.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein said specific set of sites comprises a single site and said site-specific performance criteria comprises said performance criteria for said single site.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein said specific set of sites comprises multiple sites and said site-specific criteria comprises the performance criteria for said plurality of sites.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein said set of said plurality of sites comprises all sites and said site-specific criteria comprises said performance criteria for the all said plurality of sites.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said program is further executable to send notification via one or more of: e-mail; telephone; facsimile; pager; and, postal mail.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said program is further executable to provide notification to an environmental professional.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said program is further executable to: modify performance criteria;
- review data in said database for nonconformance with said modified performance criteria; and
- provide notification of nonconformance with the modified performance criteria.
27. (Cancelled).
28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said areas of interest include one or more of: air; water; waste; energy; toxic chemical release inventory; containment; regulatory activity; cost and savings; facility general information; database meta information; health and safety information; and, materials use and conservation information.
29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said database is an Air Programs Database and said performance criteria is a high limit on emissions level.
30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said database is a Waste Management Database and said performance criteria is a low limit on recycling quantities and low percentage rates of nonhazardous and hazardous waste.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said database is an Energy Database and performance criteria is a high limit on energy consumption.
32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein said database is a Cost and Savings Database and the performance criteria is a low limit on cost to savings ratio to ensure that economic efficiency does not fall below a predetermined level.
33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising the step of generating a summary report at a pre-established review period, wherein said, report comprises a comparison of said performance information to said pre-established performance criteria.
34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising a number of specific access levels for a user, said access levels further comprising: reader; author; and, editor; wherein said reader is limited to viewing documents, said author can view said documents, create said documents, and modify said documents created by said author, and said editor can read, create and modify all said documents.
35. (Cancelled).
36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising queries to summarize data and produce useful management information.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein said queries further comprise sorting by a specific chemical compound or composition to analyze activity, distribution, disposition, and decomposition across an operation.

38. (Previously Presented) Computer executable process steps operative to control a computer, stored on a computer readable medium, for monitoring environmental performance information comprising the steps of:

accepting a plurality of forms from a plurality of sites at specific times by a predetermined schedule, each of said forms including instructions, definitions and performance information according to uniform data definitions;

storing said performance information in a database according to an area of interest of said performance information;

monitoring said performance information at said specific times by said predetermined schedule currently stored for conformance against pre-established performance criteria, wherein said performance criteria is set at one of a global, a regional, and a site-specific level;

flagging said performance information that does not conform with said performance criteria and generating a report one of automatically and manually according to at least a portion of said performance information in said plurality of databases;

providing notification when the performance information deviates from the performance criteria;

modifying said performance so that said performance conforms with said performance criteria,

wherein said modifying said performance is conducted immediately subsequent to said providing notification when said performance information deviates from said performance criteria so that said modifying of said performance occurs in real time; and

automatically creating an audit trail to said forms, wherein said audit trail comprises: a name of an author; a creation date; a name of a modifying user; and, a date of modification.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, further comprising monitoring said currently stored performance information of a specific set of sites for conformance with site-specific performance criteria.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 39, wherein said specific set of sites is a single site and said site-specific performance criteria comprises the performance criteria for said single site.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 39 wherein the set of sites comprises multiple sites and said site-specific performance criteria comprises said performance criteria for said multiple sites.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 39, wherein said specific set of sites comprises all of said plurality of sites and said site-specific criteria comprises said performance criteria for the all of said plurality of sites.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, wherein said providing notification further comprises sending notification via one or more of: e-mail; telephone; facsimile; pager; and, postal mail.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, wherein said providing notification further comprises providing notification to an environmental professional.

45. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, further comprising the steps of:

modifying performance criteria;

reviewing data in said one or more databases for nonconformance with said modified performance criteria;

providing notification of nonconformance with said modified performance criteria.

46. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, wherein said areas of interest include one or more of: air; water; waste; energy; toxic

chemical release inventory; containment; regulatory activity; cost and savings; facility general information; database meta information; health and safety information; and, materials use and conservation information.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, wherein said database is an Air Programs Database and said performance criteria is a high limit on emissions level.

48. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, wherein said database is a Waste Management Database and said performance criteria is a low limit on recycling quantities and low percentage rates of nonhazardous and hazardous waste.

49. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, wherein said database is an Energy Database and said performance criteria is a high limit on energy consumption.

50. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, wherein said database is a Cost and Savings Database and said performance criteria is a low limit on cost to savings ratio to ensure that economic efficiency does not fall below a predetermined level.

51. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, further comprising the step of generating a summary report at a pre-established review period, wherein said report comprises a comparison of said performance information to said pre-established performance criteria.

52. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, further comprising assigning a specific access level to a user, said access level further comprising: reader; author; and, editor; wherein said reader is limited to viewing documents, said author can view said documents, create said documents, and modify said documents created by said author, and said editor can read, create and modify all said documents.

53. (Cancelled).

54. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, further comprising creating queries to summarize data and produce useful management information.

55. (Previously Presented) The computer executable process steps of claim 38, wherein said creating further comprises sorting by a specific chemical compound or composition to analyze activity, distribution, disposition, and decomposition across an operation.